

Where Does the Power Go and What to do About it?

James Hamilton

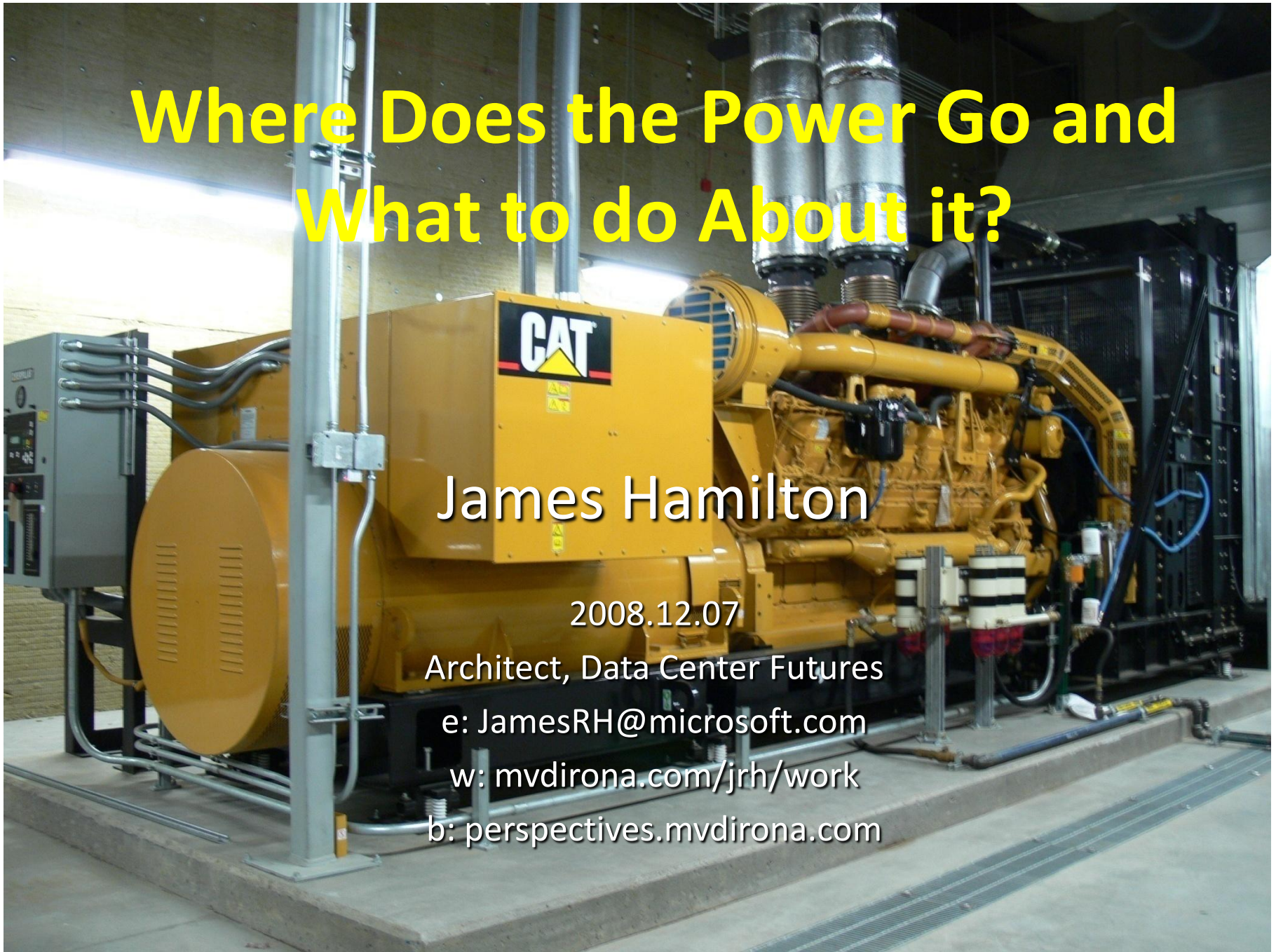
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Architect, Data Center Futures

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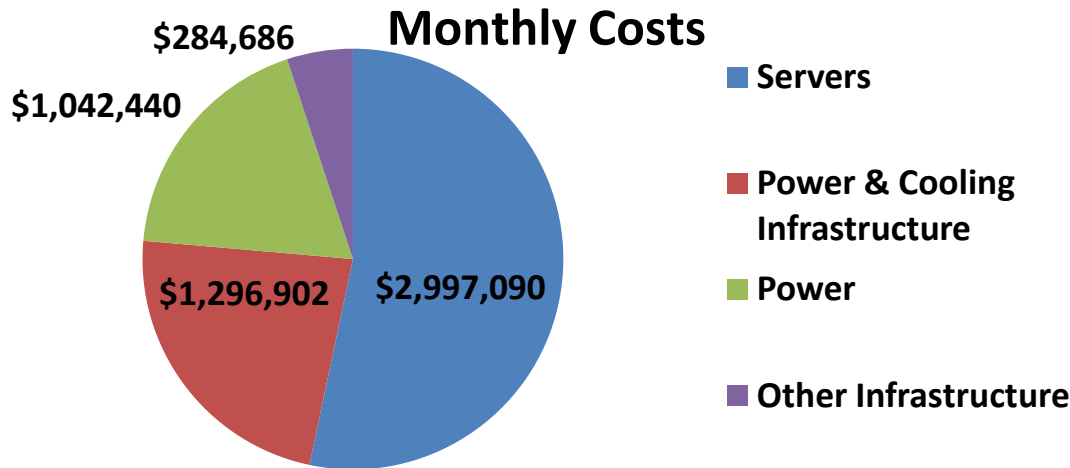
b: perspectives.mvdirona.com



Power & Related Costs Dominate

- **Assumptions:**

- Facility: ~\$200M for 15MW facility (15-year amort.)
- Servers: ~\$2k/each, roughly 50,000 (3-year amort.)
- Average server power draw at 30% utilization: 75%
- Commercial Power: ~\$0.07/kWhr



3yr server & 15 yr infrastructure amortization



- **Observations:**

- \$2.3M/month from charges functionally related to power
- Power related costs trending flat or up while server costs trending down

Details at: <http://perspectives.mvdirona.com/2008/11/28/CostOfPowerInLargeScaleDataCenters.aspx>

Where Does the Power Go?

- **Assuming a pretty good data center with PUE ~1.7**
 - Each watt to server loses ~0.7W to power distribution losses & cooling
- **Power losses are easier to track than cooling:**
 - Power transmission & switching losses: 8%
 - Detailed power distribution losses on next slide
 - Cooling losses remainder: $100 - (59 + 8) \Rightarrow 33\%$
- **Data center power consumption:**
 - IT load (servers): $1/1.7 \Rightarrow 59\%$
 - Distribution Losses: 8%
 - Mechanical load (cooling): 33%



Power Distribution



8% distribution loss

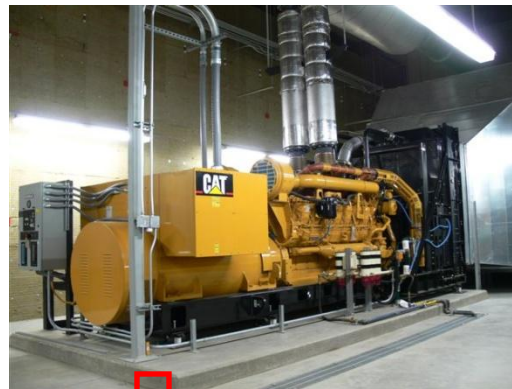
$$.997^3 \cdot .94 \cdot .99 = 92.2\%$$

4% to 5% loss attainable



IT LOAD

~1% loss in switch
Gear and conductors



2.5MW Generator
~180 Gallons/hour

115kv

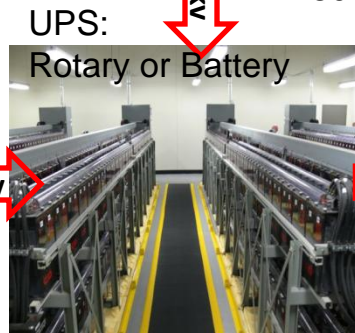
13.2kv

480V



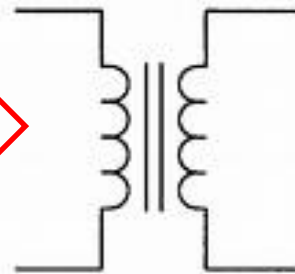
0.3% loss

99.7% efficient



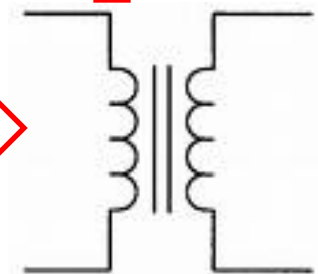
6% loss

94% efficient, >97% available



0.3% loss

99.7% efficient



0.3% loss

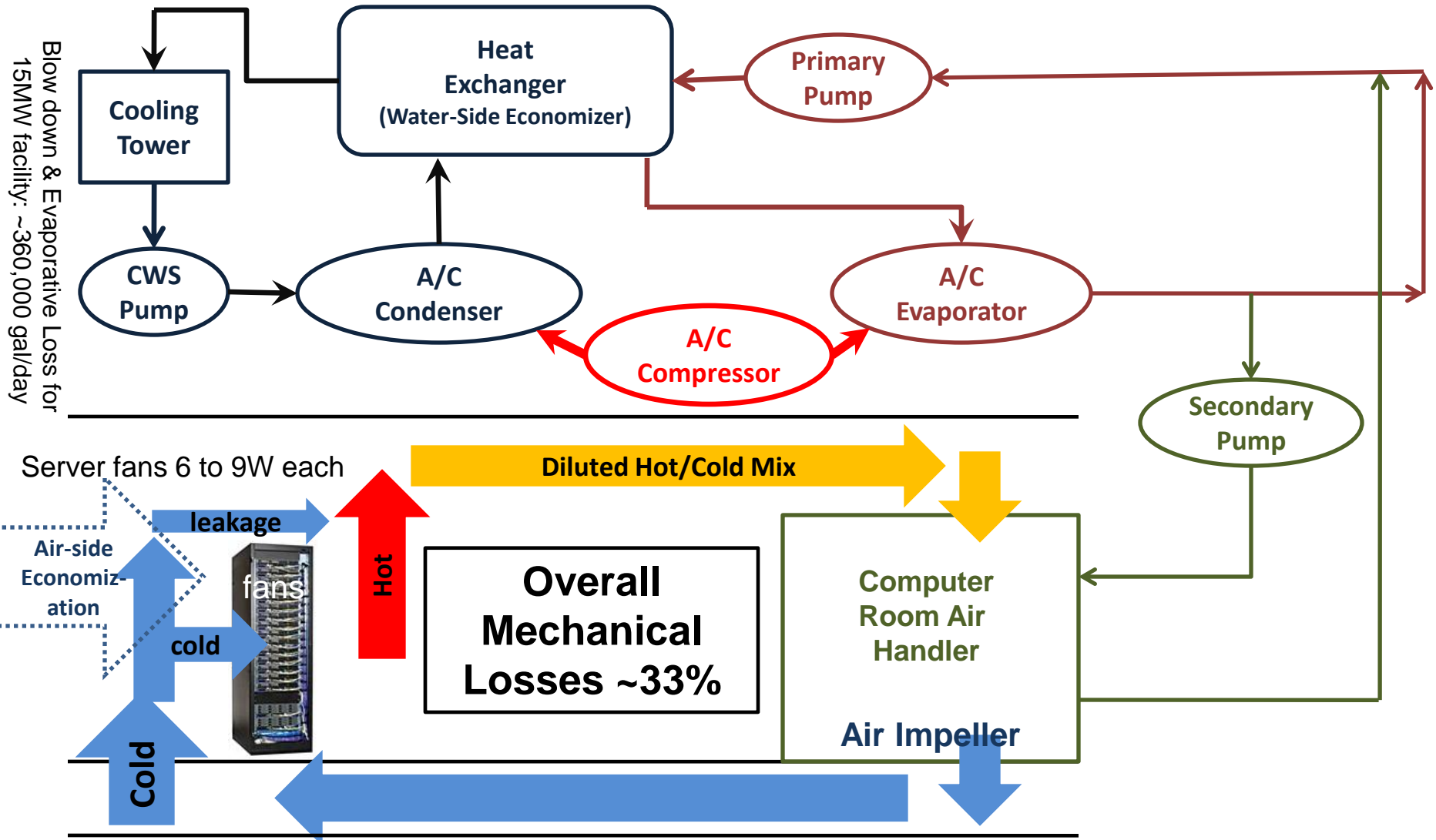
99.7% efficient

13.2kv

13.2kv

480V

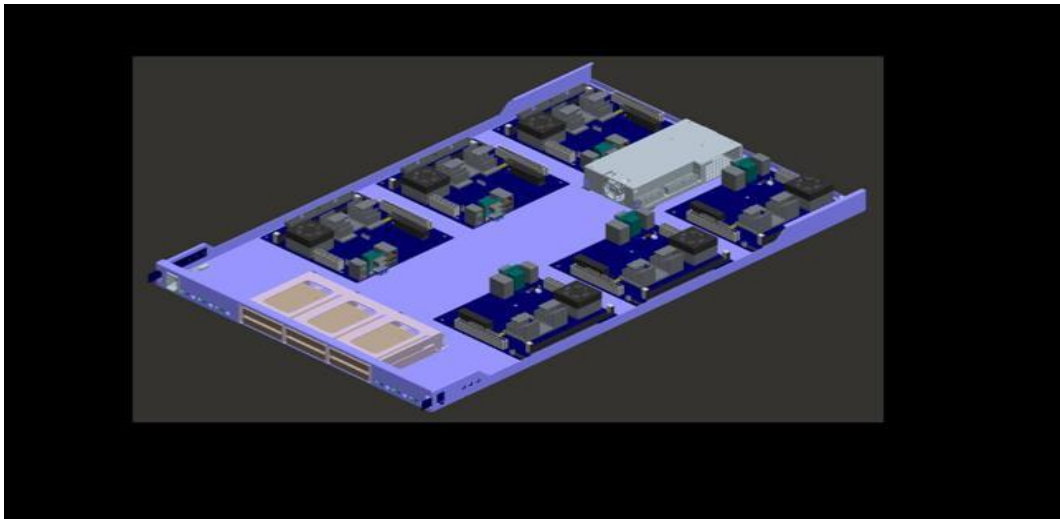
Conventional Mechanical Design



Cooperative Expendable Micro-Slice Servers

- CEMS: Cooperative Expendable Micro-Slice Servers
 - Correct system balance problem with less-capable CPU
 - Too many cores, running too fast, for memory, bus, disk, ...
- Joint project with Rackable Systems (<http://www.rackable.com/>)

	System-X	CEMS V3 (Athlon 4850e)	CEMS V2 Athlon 3400e)	CEMS V1 (Athlon 2000+)
CPU load%	56%	57%	57%	61%
RPS	95.92	75.26	54.27	17
Price	\$2,371	\$500	\$685	\$500
Power	295	60	39	33
RPS/Price	0.04	0.15	0.08	0.03
RPS/Joule	0.32515254	1.254333333	1.391538462	0.515151515
RPS/Rack	1918.4	18062.4	13024.8	4080



- CEMS V2 Comparison:
 - Work Done/\$: +372%
 - Work Done/Joule +385%
 - Work Done/Rack: +941%

Update: New H/W SKU likely will improve numbers by factor of 2. CEMS still a win.

More Information

- **These slides**
 - Will be posted to <http://mvdirona.com/jrh/work> next week.
- **Designing & Deploying Internet-Scale Services**
 - http://mvdirona.com/jrh/talksAndPapers/JamesRH_Lisa.pdf
- **Architecture for Modular Data Centers**
 - http://mvdirona.com/jrh/talksAndPapers/JamesRH_CIDR.doc
- **Increasing DC Efficiency by 4x**
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